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September 17, 2002

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*6* **DUE ON MAR 17 2003** *af*

*3314-475 em*

Application No. : **2,331,704**  
Owner : **RIKEN; S.T. RESEARCH CO., LTD.**  
Title : **LIQUID TREATMENT DEVICE WITH STORAGE TANK AND  
DELIVERY TANK**  
Classification : **G05D-9/12**  
Examiner : **P. Chan**

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION 30(2) OF THE PATENT RULES, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF A REQUISITION BY THE EXAMINER. IN ORDER TO AVOID ABANDONMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH 73(1)(A) OF THE PATENT ACT, A WRITTEN REPLY MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN 6 MONTHS AFTER THE ABOVE DATE.

This application has been examined as originally filed.

The number of claims in this application is 18.

The examiner has identified the following defects in the application:

A search of the prior art has revealed the following:

References Applied:

Japanese Application

08101099      Apr. 16, 1996      Hashizume et al.

United States Patents

5,482,368      Jan. 9, 1996      Nakamura et al.  
5,782,609      July 21, 1998      Ikemoto et al.

Hashizume et al. disclose a liquid treating equipment including: a storage vessel (1) to store a liquid; an injection tube (8) to inject the liquid into the storage vessel; a liquid supplying means to supply the liquid into the storage vessel; a discharging vessel (2) joined with the storage vessel via a flow path (3); and a discharge tube (6) for discharging the excess liquid.

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Both Nakamura et al. and Ikemoto et al. disclose the liquid supplying and discharging means are composed of positive displacement pumps.

Claims 1-18 do not comply with Section 28.3 of the Patent Act. The subject matter of these claims would have been obvious on the claim date to a person skilled in the art or science to which they pertain having regard to Hashizume et al. in view of Nakamura et al. or Ikemoto et al.

Claims 10 and 14 are indefinite and do not comply with Subsection 27(4) of the Patent Act. The following terms have no antecedents: "the surface shape" (claim 10, line 3) and "the surfaces" (claim 14, line 2).

Under Section 29 of the Patent Rules, applicant is requisitioned to provide an identification of any prior art cited in respect of the corresponding United States application and the patent number, if granted.

In view of the foregoing defects, the applicant is requisitioned to amend the application in order to comply with the Patent Act and the Patent Rules or to provide arguments as to why the application does comply.

Under Section 34 of the Patent Rules, any amendment made in response to this requisition must be accompanied by a statement explaining the nature thereof, and how it overcomes each of the above objections. Amendment to avoid references cited abroad may expedite the prosecution.

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